

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (original) A method of contraception comprising the step of:  
administering to a menstruating female a cycle of contraceptive therapy, each cycle of therapy including the transdermal administration of a combination of ethinyl estradiol and norelgestromin for at least 42 successive days, wherein said method provides enhanced bleeding control and enhanced continuation and satisfaction rates in menstruating females using said method.
2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein each cycle of therapy includes 56 consecutive days of therapy.
3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein each cycle includes a hormone-free period following the 56 days of continuous therapy.
4. (original) The method of claim 3, wherein the hormone-free period is from 4-8 days.
5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein 20 µg of ethinyl estradiol and 150 µg of norelgestromin are administered daily.

Claims 6-8 (canceled)